

## REMARKS

This is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment painted in February 4, 2009. This response makes further amendments to the application and presents claims 1 – 3 and 24 –40 for consideration on the merits. Clarifying changes have been made to claim 27 and 28.

Applicant's response dated November 19 two 2008 has been considered noncompliant because it is stated that applicant has asserted that claims 1 through 3 and 24 through 40 are readable on the elected species. However, it is noted that the response indicates:

*“Applicant hereby elects the species 5). It is Applicant's position that claims 1–3, 24–26, 29, 35–37 and 40 are generic and readable on each of the disclosed species. It is further Applicant's position that claims 30 – 34 and 37–39 are readable on the elected species.”*

It is further noted that although claims 27 and 28 were not previously indicated to be generic or and or readable on the elected species, in considering the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, it was realized that claim 27 was intended to be generic or sub generic and claim 28 (which depends on claim 27) is directed to inter alia the embodiment of Figure 9. In particular, as discussed at paragraph [0046] the ring-shaped collar 15' is termed a sphere (intended to mean spherical or including a sphere portion). This appears to be use of the term “sphere” as not a full sphere but a portion of such a sphere. In the embodiment with features of Figure 9, the ring-shaped collar is partially spherical (the rounded contours can be considered a part of an overall imaginary spherical body). To avoid any confusion on this point, this response presents claim 27 with alternative language such that it should also be considered

generic. Claim 28 clearly is directed to the embodiment of Figure 9 as the claimed ring-shaped collar (15') and surrounding callotte (14') are features of the embodiment of Figure 9.

Applicant confirms the election of the species 5) (with particular features of Figures 9–11). It is Applicant's position that claims 1–3, 24–27, 29, 35–37 and 40 are generic and readable on each of the disclosed species. It is further Applicant's position that claims 28, 30 – 34 and 37– 39 are readable on the elected species.

As previously indicated, the invention is based on the combination shown in Figures 2 1 and 2 and is concerned with the deflectable safety device(s) (10) as part(s) of the inner structure of the gripping device. These deflectable safety device(s) (10) are part of the frame (4). The frame (4) is built up of structural device parts (6,7, 8), i.e. for example frame tubes and tensioners/grippers, and is connectable as a whole by a docking point (5) to the robot hand. The deflectable safety device(s) (10) are located between the frame tubes (so called device parts 7 according to Fig. 3 and 4) and/or between a tube and a clamping device or a gripper device parts (6). This presents a unique approach is compared to the prior art.

Applicant again further requests reconsideration of the requirement in view of the fact that the preferred embodiment includes or may include each of the disclosed species. In particular, different locations within the frame may require different types of securing parts, namely the two parts that make up the deflectable safety device. The embodiments of the deflectable safety device(s) at the tensioners/grippers (6) (Fig. 5 to 11) are important. The deflectable safety device(s) between the frame tubes (7) have different features but the various embodiments of Fig. 5 to 11 follow the same idea and are quite similar in their construction.

Based on this clarification, is requested that the response be favorably considered.

Favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted  
for Applicant,



By: \_\_\_\_\_  
John James McGlew  
Registration No. 31,903  
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-  
0410.

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                 McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.  
                 BOX 9227 SCARBOROUGH STATION  
                 SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-9227  
                 TELEPHONE: (914) 941-5600  
                 FACSIMILE: (914) 941-5855